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W A R T I M E E X T E N S I O N W O R K

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS

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This week's summary covers food production and preservation and wartime activities of 4-H Club members and rural women.

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KENTUCKY
December 15, 1943

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Food production and preservation.— House-to-house survey made by neighborhood leaders throughout Kentucky showed farm families produced, canned, dried, and stored vast quantities of food. Total of 114,452 families, or nearly half of all families on farms, grew 75 percent or more of their food supply, and 112,238 families produced more food than in 1942. Number of quarts canned was 86,392,244, or nearly 70 for each man, woman, and child on farms. Also preserved were 9,068,097 containers of butters, jams, and jellies. In addition, 1,630,219 pounds of food were put into farm freezers and cold-storage lockers, 2,846,764 pounds of vegetables and fruits dehydrated, 4,511,942 bushels of apples and root crops stored, and 1,242,924 gallons of vegetables brined or salted. In home food preservation, 610 dehydrators and 13,914 pressure cookers were used.

Approximately 60,000 bushels of sweetpotatoes were stored at Hopkinsville for dehydration at new plant there. In Jessamine County, 5,280 acres of hemp for seed were harvested. In Letcher County -- coal-mining section in highest Kentucky mountains -- 1,400,000 quarts of fruits and vegetables were canned, 38,000 pounds dried, and 15,500 gallons of vegetables put in brine. In Woodford County, 91,125 pounds of food were preserved in farm freezers and community lockers.

F. N. Collier of Muhlenberg County had gross income of \$5,765 and profit of \$2,987 in year from 412 hens, which produced average of 190 eggs each.

From investment of 40 cents in turnip seed, E. R. Harper of Graves County realized more than \$71. He planted seed first week in August on rich bottom land which had been limed and fertilized. After selling 713 pounds of turnip tops, he had full crop of turnips.

Mrs. A. H. Stroud of Bell County sold enough plants and vegetables from her garden to invest \$575 in war bonds. This was in addition to home supply used.

4-H Club wartime records.- As club members and as groups, 4-H'ers have stacked up big records for Victory. Total of 108,342 members canned 7,913,998 pounds of meat and 1,493,493 jars of other food, bought \$474,584 worth of war bonds and stamps, and worked 1,073,081 hours in labor project.

Johnnie Green Pace, Livingston County 4-H Club member, had number of food projects. He won district award in poultry, having brooded 400 chicks, then sold 280 fryers for profit of \$62.50 above cost of feed, baby chicks, and brick brooder. He grew 20 varieties of vegetables in Victory garden 40 by 60 feet in size, and canned 374 quarts of food. In his F. F. A. project, he cared for registered sow and eight pigs. He also sold \$6,000 worth of war bonds and stamps.

Record achieved by James Humphrey, 4-H Club boy of Fayette County, was 230 eggs per hen, more than twice average for United States. James' 40 White Rock pullets made profit of \$185, which he used to pay for school lunches, for trip to 4-H Club war conference, and to buy bonds. His father is a poultry specialist at University of Kentucky.

Wartime activities of rural women.- About 1,100 women signed up in Women's Land Army to help in labor shortage during past year. Many devoted as much as half or three-fourths of their time to outdoor tasks. Anderson County had 158 women registered; Logan County, 117; and McCracken and Oldham Counties, 75 each.

Approximately \$6,911 worth of farm and home products was sold by seven women at Christian County homemakers' market. Other records reported at annual homemakers' meeting of 19 clubs included \$40,587 invested in war bonds and stamps, 56,804 quarts of food canned, 16,486 articles made for Red Cross, and 26,351 surgical dressings made.

Homemakers in Harlan County had total income of more than \$2,000 from home sewing during year. Some women made from 300 to 500 articles for neighbors and friends. Study of care of rayon materials to get most wear from them, pre-shrinking of fabrics before sewing, and dyeing and pressing of garments to be made over, were generally practiced by these homemakers.

Efficiency in farming.- Taking cue from industry, where ways have been found to speed up individual production, economists at Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station are investigating possibilities in cutting corners in farming.

In study of methods used by farmers, workers were found to be walking approximately 45 miles in getting 10-acre crop of tobacco from barn to stripping room and back. Some farmers piled tobacco stalks directly on wagons or sleds at stripping room door for spreading on land, thus saving time and work in handling stalks. Haymaking is another farm job which economists think can be speeded up to get more work done by one man and more hay saved. State has 2,500 combine harvesters. Corn pickers appeared for first time in several counties this season. Number of tractors, pick-up hay balers, and other labor-saving machinery is increasing.

Farm labor program.- Several hundred boys from city schools of Russell and Greenup, and some county schools, assisted in husking corn from river bottoms in Greenup County. Boys volunteered as Victory Farm Volunteers, and each was given official insignia after he had worked 15 hours or more.

MONTANA

December 1, 1943

Production capacity and goals.- Five teams of extension specialists and representatives of State War Board held 55 county meetings on 1944 food-production program. Agricultural planning groups, USDA War Boards, and AAA committeemen attended.

County goals, suggested acreages of crops, and livestock numbers were discussed as guide in problem of attaining maximum production for 1944. Specialists reported satisfactory attendance at almost all of meetings. These will be followed by neighborhood and community meetings in a number of counties, to be conducted by county extension agents with help of War Board representatives and AAA committeemen.

Livestock.- Specialist prepared circular on range concentrates, covering feeding of range livestock under wartime conditions, which virtually eliminates question of high-protein concentrates for range sheep territory.

